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09/858,096	05/15/2001	Satoshi Deishi	15162/03630	2717

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EXAMINER	
AMINI, JAVID A	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2672	8

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/858,096	DEISHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Javid A Amini	2672	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 September 2003*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *6 and 11* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5,7-10 and 12-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

Response to Amendment

- **Allowable Subject Matter:** Claims 6 and 11 allowed.

Applicant's arguments filed September 24, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

- Applicant on page 10 of remarks, lines 15-28, argues that the reference Yamaguchi discloses a method of color correcting between two apparatuses with dissimilar color gamut's. Examiner's reply: The claim language of claim 1, does not disclose any similarities between the first and second apparatuses. Applicant argues that the reference Yamaguchi does not maintain the position of the image data along a gray axis. Examiner's reply: Yamaguchi in col. 2, lines 33-37, teaches a color axis on which achromatic colors having various lightness (white axis, gray axis and black axis) are located is referred to as an "achromatic color axis". And also Yamaguchi does maintain the position of the image data along a gray axis; see col. 3, lines 9-13, the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color axis as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color axis as the lightness is decreased, and the gray axis maintains the position of the image data. Therefore, the previous rejection is still maintained.
- Applicant on pages 10 and 11, lines, 29-30; 4-22, respectively argues that the referenceYamaguchi does not disclose or suggest shifting the gray axis. See above examiner's replies.

- Applicant argues on page 11, lines 23-29, that Yamaguchi does not disclose every element of claim 15. Examiner's reply: Contrary, Yamaguchi in cols. 3 and 4, lines 66-67; 1-35 respectively, discloses the invention is to provide an image forming apparatus capable of reproducing a color image having substantially the same color as an original image even if an observing environment such as illumination is different between the original image and the reproduced image. In order to attain the above object, a color image forming apparatus according to one aspect of this invention in which an original color image on an image input medium having a first color-reproducible range (gamut) is read out to obtain a color image data representing an original color of the original color image for every picture element and then a color image is formed on an image output medium having a second color-reproducible range (gamut) on the basis of the color image data, comprises image inputting means for reading the original color image on the image input medium to input an color image data of the original image there through, image recording means for recording the color image on the image output medium on the basis of the color image data, image medium indicating means for indicating a kind of the image input medium to output a compression-indicating signal representing a compression degree in an achromatic color direction for the input color image data, and color-correcting means having a color-compression unit for color-compressing the color image data of the original color image in the achromatic color direction on the basis of the compression degree indicated by the compression indicating signal for every picture element to convert the color image data of the original color image to a color image data representing a recording color, the recording color being

within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium and having the same hue as the original color, and for outputting the converted color image data to said image recording means as the color image data, whereby a color-compression processing is performed. The claim language of claim 15 does not specify the rate of compression.

- Applicant argues on page 12, lines 4-10 that Yamaguchi does not teach the features of claim 19. See above examiner's reply.
- Applicant argues on page 12, lines 19-30 that Yamaguchi does not teach the features of claims 4, 5 and 7. Beretta in col. 5, lines 3-7, discloses automated color correction processes, this mapping generally assumes that the goal of color correction is to produce what is called a "metameric" match between colors (meaning the gray axis of first gamut matches the gray axis of second gamut). And also Beretta in col. 52, lines 13-27, teaches a gamut clipping method utilizes a measured target device gamut defined in CIELAB cylindrical coordinates for gamut clipping. CIELAB space defined in cylindrical coordinates is particularly advantageous to use for gamut mismatch correction. Hue information may be preserved (i.e., kept constant) by correcting chromatic and lightness information along a constant hue angle. A color's lightness may be preserved by editing on the a*, b* plane only, and clipping the chroma of any color that is invalid in the gamut for the specified lightness. Similarly, chromatic information, defined on straight lines radiating from the center achromatic axis, may be processed separately and held constant while changing lightness (L*) to find the maximum lightness to support the desired chroma.

- Applicant discloses on page 13, lines 9-13, that neither references disclose the same elements of claim 1. Examiner's reply: the claim languages of independent claims are very common that means the claim's features become obvious over a combination of Yamaguchi and Beretta.
- The rejection of second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 is still maintained, because the term "shifting step shifts entered/processing image data in **a color space**" is not clear. Applicant should provide more explicit explanation for the mentioned term.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 10, 12-15 and 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi.

1. Claim 1.

"A color correction method of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus having a second Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction method comprising the steps of entering image data prepared for said first apparatus, and shifting said entered image data by a conversion of shifting a gray axis of said first Gamut towards a gray aids of said second Gamut, wherein said image data is shifted according to an amount of shifting

corresponding to a distance of said image data from the gray axis of said first Gamut in a chroma direction, and wherein a position of each of said image data along said gray axis is maintained when said image data is shifted.", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1 color-reproducible ranges of various image inputting systems in a chromaticity diagram. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, lines 9-13) the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color as the lightness is decreased. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, line 21-35) it is necessary to correct a color image data of the original image such that the color of the original image is shifted to a suitable color within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium in the chromaticity diagram (color space). In general, the original image data is corrected such that the color of the original image is shifted toward a point on the achromatic color axis and is located at a point within a color-reproducible of the image output medium. But Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

2. Claim 2.

"The color correction method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of compressing the converted image data in directions of lightness and chroma so as to be applied to said second apparatus, pasting image data that does not come into said second Gamut even by said

compression step to a surface of said second Gamut, and providing image data corrected through said pasting step outside", Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 2, lines 19-30) As another color-correcting technique is known a color compression technique (a data-compression transform technique). In the data-compression transform technique, an original color image data which is input from an image input medium such as a photographic film, a television, an ink-printed sheet or the like, is beforehand transformed into a recordable color image data which is compressed in an achromatic (neutral) color direction, and then a color image is recorded or reproduced on an image output medium such as a copy sheet, a television, a coated or non-coated sheet or the like on the basis of the compressed color image data. Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify pasting image data. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

3. Claim 3.

"The color correction method according to claim 1; wherein said amount of shifting becomes smaller in proportion to greater distance from the gray axis of said first Gamut in the chroma direction", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1. Applicant needs to rewrite the language of this claim.

4. Claim 10.

"A color correction method of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus

having a second Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction method comprising the steps of entering image data prepared for said first apparatus, shifting said entered image data by a conversion of shifting a gray axis of said first Gamut towards a gray axis of said second Gamut, wherein said conversion is a conversion of shifting the gray axis of said first Gamut to a position not completely matching the gray axis of said second apparatus, and wherein a position of each of said image data along said gray axis is maintained when said image data is shifted.", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1 color-reproducible ranges of various image inputting systems in a chromaticity diagram. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, lines 9-13) the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color as the lightness is decreased. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, line 21-35) it is necessary to correct a color image data of the original image such that the color of the original image is shifted to a suitable color within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium in the chromaticity diagram (color space). In general, the original image data is corrected such that the color of the original image is shifted toward a point on the achromatic color axis and is located at a point within a color-reproducible of the image output medium. But Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

5. Claim 12.

"The color correction method according to claim 10, wherein said shifting-step sets a-white point of said first Gamut to coincide with the white point of said second Gamut. A computer program causing a computer to execute a color correction process of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus having a second Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction process comprising the steps of: receiving image data prepared for said first apparatus, and shifting said received image data by a conversion of shifting a gray axis of said first Gamut towards a gray axis of said second Gamut, wherein said image data is shifted according to an amount of shifting corresponding to a distance from the gray aids of said first Gamut in a chroma direction", Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the white point, however, a white point (color) matches another color (white point), Beretta teaches in (col. 5, lines 4-29) here are, however, many variables influencing color appearance not taken into account by automated color correction and metameric matching. Preserving certain relationships between colors and achieving consistent and appropriate colors in a document or image may be far more important to the user than a producing metamerically matching colors. But Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the white point. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

6. Claim 13.

"A computer program causing a computer to execute a color correction process of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus having a second Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction process comprising the steps of: receiving image data prepared for said first apparatus, and shifting said received image data by a conversion of shifting a gray axis of said first Gamut towards a gray axis of said second Gamut, wherein said image data is shifted according to an amount of shifting corresponding to a distance from the gray axis of said first Gamut in a chroma direction, and wherein a position of each of said image data along said gray axis is maintained when said image data is shifted.", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1 color-reproducible ranges of various image inputting systems in a chromaticity diagram. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, lines 9-13) the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color as the lightness is decreased. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, line 21-35) it is necessary to correct a color image data of the original image such that the color of the original image is shifted to a suitable color within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium in the chromaticity diagram (color space). In general, the original image data is corrected such that the color of the original image is shifted toward a point on the achromatic color axis and is located at a point within a color-reproducible of the image output medium. But Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input

medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

7. Claim 14.

"A computer program causing a computer to execute a color correction process of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus having a second Gamut indicative, of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction process comprising the steps of receiving image data prepared for said first apparatus, and shifting said received image data by a conversion of shifting a gray axis of said first Gamut towards a gray axis of said second Gamut, wherein said conversion is a conversion of shifting the gray axis of said first Gamut to a position not completely matching the gray axis of said second apparatus, and wherein a position of each of said image data along said gray axis is maintained when said image data is shifted.", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1 color-reproducible ranges of various image inputting systems in a chromaticity diagram. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, lines 9-13) the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color as the lightness is decreased. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, line 21-35) it is necessary to correct a color image data of the original image such that the color of the original image is shifted to a suitable color within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium in the chromaticity diagram (color space). In general, the original image data is corrected such that the color of the original image is shifted toward a point on the achromatic color axis and is located at a point within a color-reproducible of the image output medium. But

Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

8. Claim 15.

"A color correction method of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus having a second Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction method comprising the steps of entering image data located in said first Gamut, data using a predetermined technique processing said entered image so as to be applied to said second apparatus, and compressing image data that does not come into said second Gamut by said processing step using a predetermined technique so as to be located in said second Gamut such that color difference is minimized while maintaining lightness", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1 color-reproducible ranges of various image inputting systems in a chromaticity diagram. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, lines 9-13) the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color as the lightness is decreased. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, line 21-35) it is necessary to correct a color image data of the original image such that the color of the original image is shifted to a suitable color within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium in the chromaticity diagram (color space). In general, the original image data is corrected such that the

color of the original image is shifted toward a point on the achromatic color axis and is located at a point within a color-reproducible of the image output medium. But Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

9. Claim 19.

"A computer program causing a computer to execute a color correction process of correcting image data prepared for a first apparatus having a first Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors so as to be applied to a second apparatus having a second Gamut indicative of a range of reproducible colors, said color correction process comprising the steps of: receiving image data located in said first Gamut, processing said received image data using a predetermined technique so as to be applied to said second apparatus, and compressing image data that does not come into said second Gamut by said processing step using a predetermined technique so as to be located in. said second Gamut such that color difference is minimized while maintaining lightness", Yamaguchi illustrates in Fig. 1 color-reproducible ranges of various image inputting systems in a chromaticity diagram. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, lines 9-13) the achromatic color on the achromatic color axis is shifted up to the white color as a lightness thereof is increased, and down to the black color as the lightness is decreased. Yamaguchi teaches in (col. 3, line 21-35) it is necessary to correct a color image data of the original image

such that the color of the original image is shifted to a suitable color within the color-reproducible range (gamut) of the image output medium in the chromaticity diagram (color space). In general, the original image data is corrected such that the color of the original image is shifted toward a point on the achromatic color axis and is located at a point within a color-reproducible of the image output medium. But Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis. It would have been obvious at the time invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a reproduced color image having the same color as an original image even though a color-reproducible range of an image input medium is inconsistent with that of an image output medium, since it has been held under different observing environments such as illuminations, the same color as the original image can be visually observed in the recorded or reproduced color image.

Claims 4-5, 7 and 16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi, and further in view of Beretta.

10. Claim 4.

"The color correction method according to claim 1, wherein said shifting step shifts said entered image data so that the gray axis of said first Gamut matches the gray axis of said second Gamut", Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis, however, Beretta teaches in (col. 5, lines 4-29) here are, however, many variables influencing color appearance not taken into account by automated color correction and metameric matching. Preserving certain relationships between colors and achieving consistent and appropriate colors in a document or image may be far more important to the user than a producing metamerically matching colors. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the

teaching of Beretta into Yamaguchi in order to provide the graphical user interface that makes explicit to users the relationship among colors in the palette of colors as they are being edited. In addition, it provides a facility for the user to manually control how a color will be reproduced in a given device gamut, on one or more output devices.

11. Claim 5.

"The color correction there according to claim 1, wherein said shifting step shifts said entered data so that the gray axis of said first Gamut is shifted to a position not completely matching the gray axis of said second Gamut", Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis, Beretta teaches in (col. 52, lines 14-29) CIELAB space defined in cylindrical coordinates is particularly advantageous to use for gamut mismatch correction. Hue information may be preserved (i.e., kept constant) by correcting chromatic and lightness information along a constant hue angle. A color's lightness may be preserved by editing on the *, b* plane only, and clipping the chroma of any color that is invalid in the gamut for the specified lightness. Similarly, chromatic information, defined on straight lines radiating from the center achromatic axis, may be processed separately and held constant while changing lightness (L*) to find the maximum lightness to support the desired chroma. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Beretta into Yamaguchi in order to provide the graphical user interface that makes explicit to users the relationship among colors in the palette of colors as they are being edited. In addition, it provides a facility for the user to manually control how a color will be reproduced in a given device gamut, on one or more output devices.

12. Claim 7.

"The color correction method according to claim 1, wherein said shifting step sets a white point of said first Gamut to coincide with the white point of said second Gamut", Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the white point, however, a white point (color) matches another color (white point), Beretta teaches in (col. 5, lines 4-29) here are, however, many variables influencing color appearance not taken into account by automated color correction and metameric matching. Preserving certain relationships between colors and achieving consistent and appropriate colors in a document or image may be far more important to the user than a producing metamerically matching colors. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Beretta into Yamaguchi in order to provide the graphical user interface that makes explicit to users the relationship among colors in the palette of colors as they are being edited. In addition, it provides a facility for the user to manually control how a color will be reproduced in a given device gamut, on one or more output devices.

13. Claim 16.

"The color correction method according to claim 15, wherein said predetermined technique includes the step of shifting said entered image data by a conversion of shifting a gray axis of said first Gamut towards a gray axis of said second Gamut", Yamaguchi does not explicitly specify the gray axis, Beretta teaches in (col. 5, lines 4-29) here are, however, many variables influencing color appearance not taken into account by automated color correction and metameric matching. Preserving certain relationships between colors and achieving consistent and appropriate colors in a document or image may be far more important to the user than a producing metamerically matching colors. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Beretta into Yamaguchi in order to provide the graphical user interface that makes explicit to users the relationship among colors in the palette of colors as they are being edited. In addition, it provides a facility for the user to manually control how a color will be reproduced in a given device gamut, on one or more output devices.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

14. Claims 8-9 and 17-18 recite the limitation "a color space" in claims 8-9 and 17-18. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Applicant should provide in detail parameters for color space. The term "shifting step shifts entered/processing image data in **a color space**" is not clear. Applicant should provide more explicit description for the mentioned term.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A Amini whose telephone number is 703-605-4248. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on 703-305-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-746-8705.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

Javid A Amini
Examiner
Art Unit 2672

Javid Amini

JEFFERY BRIER
PRIMARY EXAMINER